## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of Confirmation No.: 9700

Edward G. SHIFRIN et al. Date: September 11, 2007

Serial No.: 10/561,354 Group Art Unit: 3733

Filed: November 27, 2001 Examiner: Jerry L. CUMBERLEDGE

For: STERNAL CLOSURE SYSTEM, METHOD AND APPARATUS THEREFOR

VIA EFS-WEB
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## PETITION AND FEE FOR AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.17, 1.136(a) AND 35 USC 41(a)8

Sir:

Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) the Commissioner for Patents to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by one month. The fee including the amount of \$60.00 for the petition fee is submitted herewith in accordance with 37 CFR 1.17, and is computed as:

_√_	Response within first month	
	not small entity (\$120)	 small entity (\$60)

You are authorized to charge to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700 any additional amounts owing.

If this petition is inadequate to avoid abandonment, the Assistant Commissioner for Patents is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), to extend the time by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. §1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE EFS FILING SYSTEM ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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